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***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD***

Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration

January 7, 2005

Clarence Ceasar  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Office of Historic Preservation  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

**Re:    Log No. STB041021A  
STB Docket No. AB 812X, Stockton Terminal and Eastern  
Railroad—Abandonment Exemption—in  
San Joaquin County, CA**

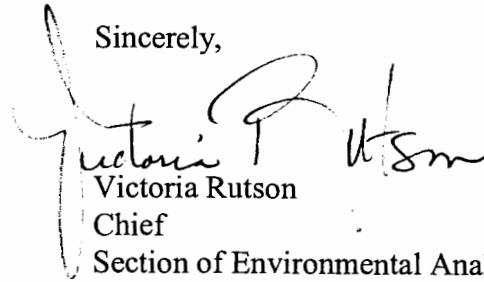
Dear Mr. Ceasar:

As you know, the Surface Transportation Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is conducting an environmental review of the Stockton Terminal and Eastern Railroad (STE) planned abandonment of a .68-mile rail line in Linden, San Joaquin County, CA, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and related environmental regulations, including the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f (NHPA). For this project, the railroad intends to remove the track materials. However, STE has stated that salvage activities will not involve subsurface disturbance of the right-of-way.

On December 7, 2004, SEA staff member Christa Dean contacted your office regarding this abandonment. Pursuant to your recommendation, the Central California Information Center has conducted a cultural resources records search for the project area, and we are submitting the results for your review. Also enclosed for your review are copies of STE's environmental and historical reports and SEA's Environmental Assessment.

We look forward to working with you to ensure proper completion of the Section 106 process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Christa Dean of my staff at (202) 565-1606.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson", is written over the typed name and title. To the right of the signature is a small, stylized mark that looks like "Hsm".

Victoria Rutson  
Chief  
Section of Environmental Analysis

**Attachments**

cc: Thomas F. McFarland, Counsel for STE  
Wendy Johnson, San Joaquin County